

Circular Letter No. 94

Dec. 6, 1923

ENGLISH IN RURAL SCHOOLS

GOVERNMENT OF PORTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
SAN JUAN

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COMMUNICATIONS TO THE
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION
SAN JUAN, P. R.

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To Supervisors of Schools.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

ENGLISH IN RURAL SCHOOLS.

I am enclosing the first four of a series of exercises in oral English, based on the oral English manuals, which were prepared by Mr. Luis Torres, assistant supervisor of schools.

Supervisors should use these exercises, and prepare others of a similar character in order to eradicate the habit that many rural teachers have of repeating mechanically the questions and answers in the manuals regardless of whether the pupils understand them or not.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) JUAN B. HUYKE

Commissioner of Education.

jcr/rs
encl.-

ORAL ENGLISH

EXERCISES FOR DRILL WORK IN THE SECOND AND THIRD GRADES.

Exercise No. 1.

Who are you? Where are you? In what barrio is your school? What kind of school is it? How many windows has it? How many doors has it? Count them. What do you see on the walls? How many blackboards do you see? What can you do on them? With what can you write on the board? Write something on it. What is in front of you? What is behind you? Whose desk is this? What do you see on my desk? Take something from it. Where do you sit? Who sits behind you? In front of you? Where is your seat? Can you wash the floor? With what can you wash it? Where is the basin? What is in it? What can you do with the water?

Exercise No. 2.

Who is your teacher? What does your teacher give you? Where am I? What am I doing? What are you doing? Who are answering my questions? Who is asking questions? Who are answering them? What color is my suit? What color is your suit? What kind of trousers have I? And you? Who has a tie? Who has a dress? a blouse? a cap? a hat?

Exercise No. 3.

Point to your body. What have you on it? What have you on your head? What do boys put on their heads? Bring me a hat. Put it on. Take it off. Show me your nose. What can you do with it? What do you put on your feet? What can you do with your feet? with your hands? with your mouth? What have I in my right hand? in my left hand? What have you in your hands? Where are your teeth? What can you do with them? What can you eat?

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Exercise No. 4.

Take a pencil. What can you do with it? What can you write? Where can you write with it?

What is this? (Showing a book.) Take it. Open it and begin to read. Whose book is this?

Point to a chair. To what are you pointing? Go and sit on it.

Bring me a ruler. What can I do with the ruler? What kind of line can you draw with it? Where can you draw it?

Look at my desk. What can I do on it?

Take a sheet of paper from my desk. Write something on it. What did you write? With what did you write? What kind of pencil is it? Who gave it to you?

These exercises should be used to test pupils in oral English. They are based on the work that should have been covered in the second grade of the rural schools.

/rs.